

Our·ganda Newsletter



AUTHOR'S NOTE

A Reflection on 2023 from an Ourganda Medical Worker

To Ron, Steve, Board Members, generous Ourganda donors and friends of Ourganda worldwide,

Allow me to commend and appreciate all the effort and work done towards the thriving of Ourganda in the year 2023, and to emphasize that, "Your work is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58). Every day, we are seeing Ourganda transform lives through your support both in knowledge and financially.

I thank our coordinator, Vincent, for his good governance and leadership to strengthen, direct, and advise our ground team as we fulfill the mission and vision for growth and development.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- All of us commend and appreciate our amazing, beautiful and comfortable Community Center at the cost of millions of shillings. The center is one of the most beautiful buildings across the entire Bundibugyo District. The result is greater respect for Ourganda which will only increase as we invite the community to events where they will be transformed physically, mentally, psychologically and spiritually.
- The fruit of our medical teams is people becoming healthy for the first time. Ourganda has sponsored so many major surgeries like that of Amon who had severe burns, Jowasi who had a septic colostomy, Joice Munana and Yodesi Kabugho with goiters, little Ben, and Yositina to mention but a few. Their lives were once hopeless but now their future is bright.



Dear Friend,

This month's newsletter was 'accidentally' written by Frank Kiiza, one of Ourganda's outstanding medical workers. I say accidentally because Frank sent us the report below as an unsolicited summary of the good things God has done in 2023. Even though Frank did not expect his email to become a newsletter, we decided that his encouraging and inspiring message should be shared with everyone who loves and supports Ourganda. Enjoy!

Ron Gladden, Director

- Business clusters have been formed and hundreds are attending financial literacy classes which lifts up families and empowers them to provide for their children and families for the first time.
- Domestic violence has been a wide and vast concern in Africa, especially in Bundibugyo. The reported cases had soared, but the fight to protect the vulnerable and to transform the offenders is proving successful. Perpetrators are given the choice to be kind or to be punished according to the laws of Uganda.
- No one seemed to care about alcohol and substance abuse until Ourganda and Step 7 Ministries combined together and gave people a chance to say 'No' to continued substance abuse. Youth and older adults formed bad peer groups that ruined their moral and psychological well being and led them to havoc and weird behavior. Step 7 is penetrating the village ghettos and leading people to turn away from destructive actions to conversions and even working in their neighborhood churches.
- We thank Heidee for inspiring people to give to an education fund that caters for vulnerable children who would otherwise drop out of school. The positive effect on the young generation and their guardians and parents is significant.
- Thanks to Dr. Mike for always leading a group of students from USA to Uganda and taking time to teach and guide them. And a big thanks to Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences (PNWU) and other universities for always allowing medical students to join our medical field here in Uganda,
- Finally, other services are given effectively like supporting midwifery section with hygiene kits, birthing kits supplements, and items for newborn babies.

Our members in Uganda appreciate the prayers and guidance from well wishers. We also appreciate those who continuously share Ourganda's stories by posting them on their social media platforms and those who make huge contributions or even small ones. I have no words to describe you, but I ask you to continue with the spirit of giving as it helps us so much. Thank you for all your love, commitment and care given to us as Ourganda and the entire community of Bundibugyo.

Ron, Steve, Dr. Mike with the entire board, you have been outstanding. Continue with the spirit of love, care and being human as you have been. We now look forward to the new year and the work that is before us.

I love you all. You are always on our hearts as brothers and sisters.

Frank Kiiza, Ourganda Nurse

